## 1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 278

April 11, 1997 – Introduced by Representatives Seratti, Hoven, Green, Ladwig, Freese, Albers, Ott, Urban, Porter, Owens, Ward, Kreibich, Cullen, Lazich, Hasenohrl, Walker, Gunderson and Ryba, cosponsored by Senators Wirch, Drzewiecki, Breske, Buettner, Zien and Rosenzweig. Referred to Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care.

- 1 AN ACT to create 939.647 of the statutes; relating to: committing certain violent
- 2 crimes against an elder person and providing a penalty.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law provides a number of penalty enhancement provisions to allow for increased penalties whenever crimes are committed under specified circumstances. This bill provides for an increased penalty for committing a violent felony against an elder person (an individual who is 62 years of age or older). Under the bill, the maximum period of imprisonment for a violent felony is increased by 5 years if the violent felony is committed against an elder person in the elder person's residence. Under the bill, "violent felony" includes felony battery, sexual assault, reckless injury and robbery.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- 3 **Section 1.** 939.647 of the statutes is created to read:
- 4 939.647 Increased penalty; violent felony committed against elder
- 5 **person.** (1) In this section:

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(a) "Elder person" means any individual who is 62 years of age or older.

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	(b) "	Violent	felony"	means	any felo	ny un	der s.	940.19	(2),	(3),	(4),	(5)	or	(6)
940.225 (1), (2) or (3), 940.23 or 943.32.														

- (2) If a person commits a violent felony in the victim's residence and the victim of the violent felony is an elder person, the maximum period of imprisonment is increased by 5 years.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies even if the person mistakenly believed that the victim had not attained the age of 62 years.
- (4) This section provides for the enhancement of the penalties applicable for the underlying crime. The court shall direct that the trier of fact find a special verdict as to all of the issues specified in sub. (2).

## SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to acts occurring on the effective date of this subsection.

13 (END)